relatively higher allocations of foodgrains for the APL category are being made for the hilly and difficult States and Union Territories such as Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Himachal Pradesh and the North Eastern States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura. Also, for other hilly States such as Uttarakhand the Government has made additional allocation of wheat for the APL category.

There is no proposal under consideration for allocation of more quantity of kerosene oil to frontier and hilly States in comparison to other States under Public Distribution System.

Backlog vacancies in AIIMS

46. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether P.M. Office has temporarily suspended the process of hiring faculty members on 91 reserved category seats for AIIMS in the wake of objections raised over the advertisement announcing the recruitment;

(b) if so, what are the main reasons for holding of backlog categories of AIIMS posts;

(c) whether this has created resentment and has lowered the efficiency of AIIMS; and

(d) what are the total vacancies in this institute and by when final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir. The process of recruitment of 92 posts as backlog vacancies under special recruitment drive was kept in abeyance on the instructions of PMO.

(b) Due to Court cases the reservation could be provided only in 2003 and in the intervening period the posts of Assistant Professor were filled only on *ad hoc* basis, In the year 2006 and 2007 the vacancy occurred but no recruitment was made during these years.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The All India Institute of Medical Sciences has reported that a total number of 173 faculty positions (including SC/ST/OBC) are vacant at the Institute. However, the matter is under active consideration of the Government.

WHO report on HIV/AIDS

47. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether WHO has called for greater attention to curb HIV/AIDS;

(b) if so, what are the main points mentioned in the WHO report;